







CT DEEP RBV Program Volunteer Field Quick Reference Guide

Step 1: Establish the sampling site; identify 6 'kick-stop' locations within the study riffle to collect your samples.

Step 2: Use a GPS unit (or Smartphone) to **determine the latitude/longitude** of your riffle; record on your datasheet. Complete <u>all</u> fields on the top of the datasheet.

Step 3: Stand in the stream at the downstream-most kick stop location and take a photo facing upstream. Turn 180 degrees and take a photo facing downstream. *Capture as much of the stream as possible in your photos.

Step 4: Place your net, opening facing upstream, at the first kick-stop. Envision an 18 in. (width of the net) by 14 in. rectangle in front of the net. Pick up cobbles (tennis ball or larger sized) located in your imaginary rectangle and place them inside the net. **Scrub cobbles with your hands to dislodge attached organism.** Repeat until all cobbles in the rectangle have been scrubbed; set cobbles outside your rectangle. Stand next to the net, and **use your heel to vigorously 'kick' the rectangle for 1 minute - use a 'Z' motion to dig up the sediment**. Pick up the net and move to your second kick-stop. Repeat the process, scrubbing large rocks and then kicking for 1 minute. Be careful not to lose the material in the net from your first kick! Empty the net contents into a white sorting tray on the stream bank.

Step 5: Repeat Step 4 at kick-stop locations #3 and #4. Empty the contents of the net into a second white sorting tray.

Step 6: Repeat Step 4 at kick-stop locations #5 and #6. Empty the contents of the net into a third white sorting tray.

Step 7: Using tweezers and spoons, pick out as many organisms as possible from each tray and place into an ice cube tray. (There should be one ice cube tray for each sorting tray.) Stop picking out organisms when you are unable to find any additional new *types* of organisms.

Step 8: Use the RBV Sorting Guide and the Field Identification Cards to **identify each of the types of organisms** in the ice cube trays. **Check off each type that is present on the datasheet.**

Step 9: Place 1-2 of each macroinvertebrate type checked off on your datasheet into a glass or clear plastic voucher container with isopropyl alcohol. Complete an RBV label using pencil and place the label inside the vial. (You may tape a second label on the outside if you desire.)

Step 10: Submit the photographs, labeled voucher, and completed datasheet to your Local RBV Coordinator for submission to CT DEEP.